

expanded from a few dozen employees to over 150. He cared about the well-being of his co-workers and the image of the Pleasanton Police Department.

Lt. Lyness was tenacious in his work: he solved many crimes after other investigators would have closed the investigation. He would not give up until he was sure that he had exhausted every possible informational source and hunch. He passed these traits to younger generations of investigators and set the standard of excellence in service for which the Pleasanton Police Department is known.

Lt. Robert Lyness has left an indelible mark on the City of Pleasanton and beyond. He is leaving a legacy of community service, leadership, care and dedication. Those who follow in Lt. Lyness' footsteps will always have him to thank for his daily example of what defines a professional police officer. On August 9th there will be a farewell celebration to thank Lt. Lyness for his dedication to public service. I join in applauding him for a job well done.

HONORING ROBERT E. "ROY"
PARKE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert E. "Roy" Parke, who was taken from us on June 5, 2008, at 87 years of age. The man many called Florida's strawberry king and founder of Parkesdale Farms in Dover, Florida, is remembered as a driving force in Florida's strawberry industry.

A native of Northern Ireland, Roy Parke and his family migrated to the United States when he was 5. He attended a one-room school in Pennsylvania, and then served his country in World War II as a sergeant in the 63rd Infantry Division. He founded R.E. Parke & Sons in 1957 with money from a G.I. Bill of Rights loan. Today, the operation has more than 500 acres of berries and vegetables. Roy pioneered the first successful overseas air shipment of strawberries to Europe in 1963, and he was the first to protect strawberries with overhead irrigation. In 1983, Roy was the first inductee into the Florida Strawberry Hall of Fame and was a vocal proponent of the state's strawberry industry.

Roy was someone who I have admired and respected for many years. He was not only a renowned success in his business endeavors, but he was also a prominent leader in his diverse volunteer efforts. The communities of Dover and Plant City will forever bear his imprint and the memory of the "Strawberry King" will surely be eternal.

Madam Speaker, my heart aches for Roy's family. He is survived by his wife, Helen; daughters Cheryl Meeks, Sandee Sytsma and Colleen Fulton; sons Bobby Parke and Gary Parke; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May God bless the Parke family. We shall never forget Roy.

IN RECOGNITION OF DON AND
LORRAINE PROVOST

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I along with Ms. LEE rise today to pay tribute to Don and Lorraine Provost, stalwarts of the Oakland community. On August 2, 2008, the 24 Hour Children Center's Annual Scholarship Luncheon will recognize Don and Lorraine's exemplary and legendary contributions and commitment to their community.

This husband and wife team has worked tirelessly to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Don and Lorraine are co-founders and actively involved as President/CEO and Vice President, respectively, of the College Awareness Program (CAP), a community based organization that encourages, recruits and places high school students in historically Black colleges and Universities and other colleges affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. CAP has been in existence since 1993. CAP's activities include College Awareness Night, where students meet with college representatives; Financial Aid Seminars; exposure for high school students to travel to the college and universities to experience the life of a college freshman; and continued support services, which provide an extended support system to students in need. The Don and Lorraine Kennix Provost Scholarship, administered by Stillman College, is an example of the Provost's commitment to insure deserving students are provided an opportunity to attend college.

Don is retired as a Transportation Planner for the State of California. Lorraine is currently the Executive Director of the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women, which focuses on issues of equity for women and girls. She was instrumental in launching the Junior Commission to allow young girls to fully participate in policy and activities of specific interest to their age group.

Lorraine's contributions include the Commission's Women's Hall of Fame and the Day of Remembrance which focuses on domestic violence, gender and racial equality. She is currently acting moderator of Black Presbyterian Women of Northern California.

Don and Lorraine are longtime political activists and come from a family tradition of activism and social responsibility. They have a myriad of accomplishments to which they can point related to their community advocacy in local, state and national organizations. We are the beneficiaries of Don and Lorraine's activism and are proud to recognize each of them as our longtime mentor and friend.

Their children, Chad and Shani, are following the tradition of their parents who have lead by example. We are proud to join the family, friends and admirers who will pay tribute to Don and Lorraine Provost and recognize and appreciate how much they have given of themselves to help others reach their goals.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
ED NUERNBERG

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend Ed Nuernberg on the occasion of his retirement from BASF after over 30 years of distinguished service. He is an honorable, decent, and hard working man and I am proud to call him my friend.

Mr. Nuernberg was born in Delevan, Wisconsin, but moved frequently throughout his life. He earned a bachelor degree in science and chemical engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1972. It was there that he met his wonderful wife Patty. After he graduated he began his career at Rohm and Haas Corporation, where he worked as a process engineer for 2 years.

As his career progressed, Mr. Nuernberg continually exhibited his intelligence and drive as he contributed to the advancement of numerous aspects of the chemical industry. Mr. Nuernberg began his career at BASF in 1974 as an Operating Technical Supervisor in BASF's Geismar, Louisiana plant. During his second year, he became Superintendent of the Caustic Plant, and soon after he became Superintendent of the Propylene Oxide Plant in Wyandotte, Michigan. Following this post, he temporarily left Downriver to share his skills in a variety of capacities and locations. However, in 1998, Mr. Nuernberg finally returned to Wyandotte where he was named General Manager.

In addition to his fine work at BASF, Mr. Nuernberg joined many community organizations throughout his time in the Downriver area. He has provided great leadership as a board member of the Michigan Chemistry Council, Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, International Wildlife Refuge Alliance, and Southeast Michigan Sustainable Business Forum and as president of the Wyandotte Community Advisory Panel and as a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

I am happy to know that he will be able to continue his work with BASF, as well as his lifelong conservation efforts, as he enjoys managing the beautiful facilities and habitat on Fighting Island. Because of Mr. Nuernberg's efforts to restore the island's habitat, fish, migratory birds and people on both sides of the Detroit River have benefited tremendously.

As Mr. Nuernberg enters his retirement years, I would like to extend my best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable future with Patty and the rest of his family and friends and thank him for all of his hard work and commitment to BASF Corporation and the Downriver community.

Madam Speaker, I would like to ask that my colleagues join me in commending Ed Nuernberg for leadership in both his corporation and in his community, as we celebrate his 34 years of dedication.